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Agenda item 34 (a)
Prevention of armed conflict: prevention of armed conflict

Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovenia, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America:
draft resolution

Problem of the militarization of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, as well as parts of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Charter of the United Nations, which states, inter alia, that all Members of the United Nations shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations,

Recalling also its resolution 68/262 of 27 March 2014 on the territorial integrity of Ukraine, in which it affirmed its commitment to the sovereignty, political independence, unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders,

Recalling further its resolutions 71/205 and 72/190 on the situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, of 19 December 2016 and 19 December 2017, respectively,

Condemning the ongoing temporary occupation of part of the territory of Ukraine, namely, the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol (hereinafter referred to as "Crimea"), by the Russian Federation, and reaffirming the non-recognition of its annexation,

Recalling that the temporary occupation of Crimea and the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of Ukraine by the Russian Federation is in contravention of commitments made under the Memorandum on Security Assurances in Connection with Ukraine's Accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (Budapest Memorandum) of 5 December

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1994,[1] in which, inter alia, the commitment to respect the independence and sovereignty and the existing borders of Ukraine was reaffirmed,

Supporting the commitment by Ukraine to adhere to international law in its efforts to put an end to the temporary Russian occupation of Crimea,

1. *Stresses* that the presence of Russian troops in Crimea is contrary to the national sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine and undermines the security and stability of neighbouring countries and the European region;

2. *Expresses its grave concern* over the progressive militarization of Crimea by the Russian Federation as the occupying Power, and also expresses concern over reports of the continuing destabilization of Crimea owing to transfers by the Russian Federation of weapon systems, including nuclear-capable aircraft and missiles, weapons, ammunition and military personnel to the territory of Ukraine, and urges the Russian Federation to stop such activity;

3. *Expresses its concern* regarding multiple military exercises of Russian armed forces held in Crimea, which can undermine regional security and entail considerable long-term negative environmental consequences in the region;

4. *Also expresses its concern* over the Russian Federation's ongoing actions in parts of the Black Sea surrounding Crimea and the Sea of Azov, including their militarization, which pose further threats to Ukraine and undermine the stability of the broader region;

5. *Expresses its utmost concern* about the dangerous increase in tensions and the unjustified use of force by the Russian Federation against Ukraine, including against three vessels of the naval forces of Ukraine, namely, the *Berdyansk*, the *Nikopol* and the tugboat *Yana Kapu*, on 25 November 2018 in the Black Sea, as well as the serious wounding of some of their crew members, calls upon the Russian Federation to release the vessels and their crews and equipment unconditionally and without delay, and also calls for the utmost restraint to de-escalate the situation immediately;

6. *Calls upon* the Russian Federation to refrain from impeding the lawful exercise of navigational rights and freedoms in the Black Sea, the Sea of Azov and the Kerch Strait in accordance with applicable international law, in particular provisions of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;[2]

7. *Condemns* the Russian Federation's construction and opening of the Kerch Strait bridge between the Russian Federation and temporarily occupied Crimea, which facilitates the further militarization of Crimea, and also condemns the increasing military presence of the Russian Federation in parts of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov, including the Kerch Strait, and the Russian Federation's harassment of commercial vessels and restriction of international shipping there;

8. *Urges* the Russian Federation, as the occupying Power, to withdraw its military forces from Crimea and to end its temporary occupation of Ukraine's territory without delay;

9. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the matter at its seventy-fourth session.

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[1] A/49/765, annex I.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.